

**UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
REGION 5**

**DATE:** April 21, 2006

**SUBJECT:** Reports of Significant Developments and Activities  
Ending on April 14, 2006

**FROM:** Richard C. Karl, Director  
Superfund Division

**TO:** Bharat Mathur  
Acting Regional Administrator

Norman R. Niedergang  
Acting Deputy Regional Administrator

The activities listed below are organized by site-specific activities, other significant developments, training/conferences, and stakeholder feedback:

**SITE-SPECIFIC ACTIVITIES**

**Response (Nitrogen Dioxide Release), Vickery Environmental,  
Vickery, Ohio**

On March 24, 2006, the United States Environmental Protection Agency (U.S. EPA) received a request for assistance from the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) in responding to a chemical release from Vickery Environmental located in Vickery, Ohio. The facility is a hazardous waste deep well injection disposal facility that handles inorganic and acid wastes. The release was discovered at approximately 4:15 p.m. from a 200,000 gallon above-ground storage tank. The County Sheriff's Office evacuated 50 residents from downwind areas.

U.S. EPA and Ohio EPA provided oversight and technical guidance to the facility and the County HAZMAT Teams. The evacuation was lifted at 8:00 p.m. and air monitoring was conducted throughout the night and weekend as Vickery Environmental continued to empty the tank that caused the release. By March 26, 2006, the tank was emptied and Vickery Environmental began an inspection of the tank to discover the cause of the release. Ohio EPA's Resource

Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA) and Air programs will be conducting follow-up compliance inspections at the facility.

Contacts: Brian Kelly (734-692-7684)  
James Justice (734-692-7687)

#### **Emergency Response, BP Pipeline, Toledo, Ohio**

On March 23, 2006, BP Pipeline (potentially responsible party) contacted the National Response Center to report a pressure drop in a 6-inch gasoline pipeline that runs 14 miles from the BP Refinery in Oregon, Ohio, to a terminal facility on the west side of Toledo. After an oil spill was discovered by City of Toledo Division of Environmental Services personnel on Shantee Creek, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Jon Gulch, Michelle Jaster, and James Justice responded to provide air monitoring assistance to the Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) in the nearby neighborhood. BP contractors had been on-scene collecting product, booming the Creek, and providing 24-hour air monitoring support. Initial estimates suggest that 40-45 barrels (1500-2000 gallons) were released into the Creek. Current recovered product totals and estimates of product contained in impacted soils indicate that spilled product totals are 11,340 gallons, of which 8,400 gallons have been recovered. To date, eleven impacted animals (5 ducks, 2 fish, 2 turtles, 1 sparrow, and 1 muskrat) have been discovered and a wildlife plan has been developed in coordination with the Ohio Department of Natural Resources. Plans are underway to begin exploratory excavations and subsurface sampling to determine the extent of contamination. BP Pipeline has established an Incident Management Team for the response and U.S. EPA will continue to provide oversight.

Contacts: Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)  
Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)  
James Justice (734-692-7683)

#### **Emergency Response, Pandora Manufacturing Spill, Pandora, Ohio**

On March 21, 2006, Pandora Manufacturing spilled approximately 950 gallons of a commercial floor coating and 6,000 gallons of an ammonia/water mixture to a storm sewer leading to Riley Creek. The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA) and Ohio Department of Natural Resources responded to the spill. The spill had moved down Riley Creek and entered the Blanchard River, a tributary of the Auglaize River. The City of Ottawa, Ohio, closed its drinking water intakes to prevent potential impact from the spill. On March 22, Ohio EPA requested U.S. EPA assistance. The spill initially moved downstream as a 1-mile blue/green emulsion dispersed throughout the water column. Recovery, treatment, and dilution removed the visible emulsion.

Analytical results of samples taken from the creek indicated that no compounds were detected above any human health concern levels. The City of Ottawa was advised it could reopen its drinking water intake. Support was provided by the Environmental Response Team (ERT), the National Decontamination Team, and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR).

Contacts: Brian Kelly (734-692-7684)  
Stuart Hill (312-886-0689)

**Oil Spill Response, Canadian National Railroad, Wyandotte, Michigan**

On March 26, 2006, the U.S. EPA Duty Officer received an anonymous phone call reporting an oil spill into a drainage ditch from a Canadian National Railroad (CNRR) switch yard located in Wyandotte, Michigan. On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) James Justice responded and discovered oil in a ponded area in the switch yard.

An inspection of the area surrounding the yard did not find any migration of the oil off-site into a nearby stream. The oil was contained with no threat of further release to the environment. OSCs James Justice and Brian Kelly contacted the CNRR emergency response coordinator and informed him of the release. A cleanup contractor was hired to collect the oil, oiled debris, and oily water for disposal. The source/cause of the spill is unknown at this time and CNRR will continue to investigate.

Contacts: James Justice (734-692-7687)  
Brian Kelly (734-692-7684)

**Settlement Reached, Dana Atlantic, LLC, Toledo, Ohio**

On March 6, 2006, the Agency filed a Consent Agreement and Final Order (CAFO) resolving the Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act Section 103 violation at Dana Atlantic, LLC, Toledo, Ohio. On November 3, 2005, the Agency filed an Administrative Complaint against Glacier Daido America, LLC, Bellefontaine, Ohio, with a proposed penalty of \$28,438. On January 24, 2006, the Agency amended the Administrative Complaint because the Respondent changed to Dana Atlantic, LLC. The agreed settlement in the CAFO, was for \$24,172 to be paid to the Superfund Account. Dana Atlantic, LLC will have 30 days to pay the penalty.

Contact: James Entzminger (312-886-4062)

**Facility Response Plan (FRP) Discussion, Isle Royale National Park, Houghton, Michigan**

On Tuesday April 4, 2006, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Barbi Lee and Michelle Jaster met with representatives from the National Park Service to discuss the Facility Response Plans (FRPs) for the three bulk oil storage tank areas located at Isle Royale National Park (ISRO). Five year FRP reviews were completed for the Mott Island, Rock Harbor, and Windigo storage areas at Isle Royale. ISRO stores oil products for internal Park Service use, as well as for external concessionaire use. The U.S. EPA, ISRO, and the U.S. Coast Guard have spent several years improving oil spill planning processes and response strategies for the ecologically sensitive international biosphere located in Lake Superior. The FRP review and update process will incorporate the multitude of training and equipment improvements that ISRO has implemented into the existing plans. OSCs Barbi Lee and Michelle Jaster met with ISRO personnel to discuss specific changes that need to be made to bring their FRPs into full compliance with the regulations.

Contacts: Barbi Lee (312-886-5296)  
Michelle Jaster (734)692-7683)

**Site Assessments, Eagle Picher Properties, Toledo, Ohio**

On March 7, 2006, On-Scene Coordinator (OSC) Jon Gulch was contacted by Region 5 Office of Regional Council to assist on a project with the U.S. Department of Justice (DOJ) on a bankruptcy proceeding involving the Eagle Picher Corporation. Eagle Picher Corporation declared bankruptcy and was asked by DOJ to submit costs for environmental cleanup at seven sites in Region 5 (Galena, Illinois; Urbana, Ohio; Sidney, Ohio; Hillsdale, Michigan [2 sites]; Inkster, Michigan, and River Rouge, Michigan). During the week of March 20, 2006, OSC Jon Gulch, along with the Superfund Technical Assistance and Response Team (START) contractor, performed a file search and limited site assessment at each site to verify costs given to DOJ by Eagle Picher. Seven Site Assessment Reports were provided to attorneys from DOJ and U.S. EPA on March 24, 2006.

Contact: Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)

## OTHER SIGNIFICANT DEVELOPMENTS

### **New Contract Awarded, Environmental Services Assistance Team (ESAT)**

On April 12, 2006, the new Environmental Services Assistance Team (ESAT) Contract was awarded to TechLaw, Inc. The new contract will provide analytical services, field analytical support, data validation support, data control & logistical support, and quality assurance/quality control (QA/QC) support to Region 5 Superfund's remediation program. The base period of the contract will be from April 17, 2006, through April 16, 2008. This contract also has one two-year option period and three one-year option periods, which could result in a seven year contract.

This award is the result of the significant joint efforts over the last 12 months of numerous staff representing the Superfund Division, Resources Management Division, Office of Solid Waste and Emergency Response (OSWER) staff and Office of Acquisition Management (OAM) staff from Headquarters. Now that the contract has been awarded, the staff from both divisions will be working with the Project Officer to issue Task Orders to meet the contractor support needs at various Superfund sites in Region 5.

Contacts: Jay Thakkar (312-886-1972)  
Steven Peterson (312-353-1422)

## TRAINING/CONFERENCES

### **Occupational Safety and Health Administration Refresher Training**

During the months of March and April 2006, Region 5 conducted six Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) refresher training courses for Superfund Division staff. One hundred and seventy-six people attended the training, including personnel outside the U.S. EPA (e.g., State, the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR), and the U.S. Department of Labor). Annual Fit-Testing was conducted during the 8-hour training. Evaluations were distributed and the attendees responded to them. Most students rated the course as "Good". The lecture on the Incident Command System was new this year, and it was well received. Most of the participants showed an interest in Incident Command position training.

Contacts: Afif Marouf (312-353-5550)

Jacqueline Dillard (312-353-8730)

**EPA Presentations, Certified Hazardous Materials Managers of Michigan Annual Conference, Canton, Michigan**

On March 2, 2006, two On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) from the Emergency Response Branch were presenters at the Certified Hazardous Materials Managers of Michigan annual conference. The full-day conference was held in conjunction with the Detroit Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers, and approximately 125 environmental professionals were in attendance.

OSC Jon Gulch participated in the opening plenary session and presented an overview of U.S. EPA's emergency response to the EQ Fire in Romulus, Michigan. OSC Michelle Jaster participated in the Environmental Update session and presented an overview of the completed Black Lagoon/Great Lakes Legacy Act cleanup in Trenton, Michigan.

Contacts: Jon Gulch (734-692-7686)  
Michelle Jaster (734-692-7683)

**Warren Fire Department HAZCAT Training, Warren, Michigan**

On March 21, 2006, On-Scene Coordinators (OSCs) Brian Kelly, James Justice, and Brian Schlieger conducted a training session for the City of Warren Fire Department's HAZMAT Team. The HAZMAT Team was presented with information on how to quickly characterize hazardous materials, and practical information on the use of their HAZCAT Kit followed. The OSCs also gave a presentation on the resources and technical assistance that the U.S. EPA's Emergency Response Branch can provide to local first responders, including: ASPECT, TAGA, plume modeling, radiation support, and a variety of air monitoring equipment. Both presentations were well received. The Warren Fire Department expressed interest in additional presentations, specifically on air monitoring and radiation detection equipment.

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James Justice (734-692-7687)  
Brian Schlieger (734-692-7681)

**Tribal Brownfields Workshop**

On April 4-5, the Brownfields 128(a) program staff hosted a workshop for the Tribal grantees. This has become an annual training event. The purpose of the workshop is to provide

information to the 128(a) Tribes to help further them along on the path to establishing a Tribal Response Program. The workshop also enables the 128(a) Tribes to network and share experiences with each other. Presentations were given on various topics, such as the TRIAD approach, risk based corrective action, and development of cleanup standards. Presenters were from Headquarters, the Region, the private sector, and non-profit sector. All participants found the workshop useful based on the evaluation feedback that was received.

Contact: Kelley Moore (312-886-3598)

**Agency Participation, 56th Annual Chicago Public School Student Science Fair, Museum of Science and Industry, Chicago, Illinois**

On March 31, 2006, Barb Carr (Spill Prevention, Control and Countermeasures Coordinator) was an exhibit judge from the U.S. EPA at the Chicago Public School's 56th Annual Student Science Fair held at the Museum of Science and Industry in Chicago, Illinois. The science fair showcases the best and brightest of the City's school students in grades seven through twelve in science, mathematics, and technology. Students competed with exhibits, models, demonstrations, papers, and oral presentations.

The theme of this year science fair was, "A Science and Mathematics: Going Beyond the Boundaries." About 300 students demonstrated their knowledge during the science fair. Fifty of these were selected by the judges to advance to the State Science Fair and, of these, four will go on to compete at the international level. Each year over 300 judges from the scientific, academic, and business communities generously donate their time, effort, and expertise in order to objectively and professionally evaluate the most scientifically talented students from the Chicago Public Schools. There were specific guidelines for judging exhibits and scientific papers. Corporate sponsors included BP America Inc., ComEd, and The Motorola Foundation. Mayor Daley and Arnie Duncan, Chief Executive Officer of the Chicago Public Schools, officiated at the opening ceremonies.

Contact: Barb Carr (312-886-7187)

**STAKEHOLDER FEEDBACK**

**Letter of Appreciation (Robert Buckley), Department of Homeland Security**

Emergency Response Section 1 received a letter of appreciation for Robert Buckley from Patricia Burt, Chief, Comprehensive Reviews, Department of Homeland Security (DHS). It states in part: "I want to extend a heartfelt thank you for being a part of the DHS Chemical Comprehensive Review (CR). We greatly appreciate your support of and participation in this important cooperative initiative which we truly believe will be beneficial for the chemical industry; the community stakeholders; and our nation's security. Your cooperation with CR team members from the DHS as well as our partners in the private sector is commendable. Such willingness and active cooperation with the CR team is essential to the success of the CR process. Thank you for a job well done and for contributing to the defense of our nation."

Contact: Jason El-Zein (734-692-7661)

cc: Susan Bodine (OSWER)  
Tom Dunne (OSWER)  
Barry Breen (OSWER)  
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Region 5 State Superfund Coordinators  
Division/Office Directors  
ORA State Coordinators  
Regional Team Managers